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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. GP-307706

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HINGE DEVICE

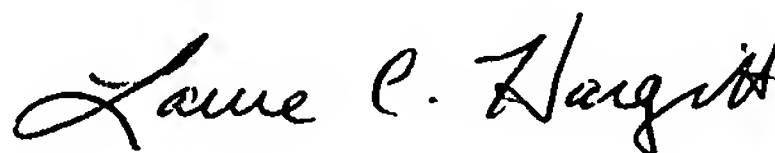
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT – SUBSTITUTE APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Prior to the examination of the subject application, please file the attached substitute patent application.

This application is based on a European PCT application, the English translation of which is serving as the application for filing purposes. However, amendments to the application and claims are needed and have been made in order for the application to comply with US filing requirements.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: Dec. 21, 2005

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Attachment